

Stonehouse Stables

2116A Forge Road
Toano



"Stonehouse Stables is a horse farm providing hunt-seat equitation lessons and trails, boarding, showing, and horse and pony sales."

Green Statement: "As a family-owned and operated business we made a decision to be as green as a horse farm can be. Our mission statement reflects this: Our mission at Stonehouse Stables is to provide facilities and services in support of an educationally oriented, environmentally aware, safe, family focused equine center."

CORE ACTIVITIES for Green Attractions

☒ **Recycling.** Virginia Green facilities must have highly-visible locations/containers that provide the opportunity for guests to recycle aluminum cans, plastic and glass bottles, or other disposable products purchased at the facility. Recycling of cardboard, plastic, paper, and composting of waste foods is highly encouraged as well. This facility pledges that they:

- Offer the opportunity for guests to recycle: glass bottles, plastic bottles, aluminum cans
- Also recycle: steel cans, toner cartridges, cardboard, batteries, electronic equipment

☒ **Minimize the use of disposable food service products.** The facility is required to minimize the use of disposable food service products and maximize the use of food service products that are recyclable or compostable in the food service area. When disposable food service items are used, the facility is encouraged to use products that are made from bio-based or renewable resources, and to provide for the collection / recycling/ composting of food service items disposed of on the premises. This facility pledges that they:

- Do not use any disposable containers, dishware, cutlery, or cups

☒ **Reduce solid waste.** The facility must be actively working to reduce its solid waste generation. This facility pledges that they:

- Track overall solid waste costs

Office

- Remove facility and staff names from junk mail lists when possible
- Reuse scrap paper for notes
- Reuse or donate shipping and packing supplies (peanuts, bubble wrap, etc.)
- Make double-sided photocopies and avoid making extra photocopies
- Use electronic correspondence and forms when possible

Buildings and grounds

- Use green cleaning products that are dispensed in bulk
- Use latex low or no-VOC paints

- Properly recycle and/or dispose of thinners and solvents (required by law)
- Perform preventative maintenance on all appliances, HVAC systems, plumbing, and vehicles

☒ **Use water efficiently.** The facility must have a plan in place and have taken steps toward reducing its water use. This facility pledges that they:

Activities indoors

- Perform preventative maintenance to stop drips and leaks
- Have installed:
 - Low flow toilets (use 1.6 gallons per flush or less)

Activities outdoors

- Have minimized impervious areas (paving, concrete, etc.)
- Use a nutrient management plan that minimizes the use of fertilizers
- All horse pastures and stalls have automated watering so that water is always available but not wastes (as in buckets or tubs)
- All pastures are soil tested annually and fertilized only as needed
- All manure is recycled via daily use of a manure spreader
- Work with Va Cooperative Extension Services, who recommended that the lake on property be fenced off so that horse do not have access



☒ **Conserve energy.** The facility must have a plan in place and have taken steps toward reducing its energy use. This facility pledges that they:

- Track overall energy bills

Heating and cooling

- Keep office doors and windows closed if HVAC system is on

Lighting

- Use natural lighting
- Use lighting sensors to turn on/off lights
- Have installed directional (downward-facing) lighting in parking areas and other outdoor areas

Appliances and electronic devices

- Have adopted a policy/practice to turn off fans, computers, monitors and other devices in unoccupied rooms at the end of the workday or when otherwise not being used

☒ **Green Events Package.** The facility must offer a “green” or “environmentally-friendly” package for conferences, meetings and other events. Even if the facility only offers occasional, small events, at least recycling will be provided. This facility pledges that they:

- Do no host conferences or events

☒ **Other Sustainability Actions:**

- Our horseback riding trail is restricted to horses and carefully maintained to minimize any impact on the environment. We do not intrude on sensitive wetland areas on the property (below the dam retaining our private lake). We also work hard to control erosion.

For more information on Stonehouse Stables, see www.stonehousestables.com or contact Tara Best at tara@stonehousestables.com or 757-566-0666.

Virginia Green is the Commonwealth of Virginia's campaign to promote environmentally-friendly practices in all aspects of Virginia's tourism industry. **Virginia Green Attractions** have been thoughtfully planned and designed to minimize their impacts on the environment. This attraction has met the established "core activities" for **Green Attractions** and has committed to communicate its activities to its guests.

For more information on **Virginia Green** program, see www.deq.virginia.gov/p2/viriniagreen or www.viriniagreentravel.org.



Virginia Green is supported through a partnership between the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the Virginia Hospitality & Travel Association, and the Virginia Tourism Corporation.

